

Message Text

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ACTION IO-06

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 CU-02 INR-05 NSAE-00 RSC-01 USIA-06

EUR-08 ISO-00 AF-04 ARA-06 EA-06 NEA-06 L-01 OIC-01

DRC-01 /054 W

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R 151909Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3215

INFO USMISSION USUN

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 24325

NESCO

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, OCON, UNESCO, US, XF

SUBJECT: PLO ISSUE AT 18TH GEN CONF

REFS: (A) PARIS 23419;; (B) STATE 217757;

(C) PARIS 23189

1. PERMREP AND DELOFF CONVERSATIONS OCTOBER 11 AND 14 WITH CANADIAN AMBASSADOR TO UNESCO(GAGNON) AND EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER (LEBLANC) INDICATE THAT CANADA MAY CHANGE VOTE CAST AGAINST ACCORDING PLO OBSERVER STATUS DURING 95TH EXBD ON OCT. 3 TO ABSTENTION WHEN 18TH GENCONF CONSIDERS ISSUE.

2. PLO QUESTION (AGENDA ITEM 21.1) TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR CONSIDERATION BY LEGAL COMMITTEE -- OF WHICH US A MEMBER -- BEGINNING FRIDAY OCT. 18 AT 4:00PM AND MONDAY, OCT. 21.

3. AS REFTTEL (A) REPORTED, CANADA ALONE JOINED US IN OPPOSING PLO MEASURE AT EXECUTIVE BOARD VOTE OF 25-2-7 (AUSTRIA' FRANCE, FRG, ITALY, NETHERLANDS, UK, URUGUAY).
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4. GOC APPARENTLY HAD INSTRUCTED CANADIAN PERMDEL TO ABSTAIN IN LATTER VOTE BUT AMBASSADOR DECIDED TO VOTE AGAINST DUE CONSIDERATIONS WHICH PARALLELED CLOSELY THOSE CONTAINED DEPARTMENT'S INSTRUCTIONS (REFTEL B).

5. HOWEVER, NOW AMBASSADOR GAGNON AND BOARD MEMBER LEBLANC SAY THAT FIRST "NO" VOTE COULD BE CONSIDERED SUFFICIENT REGISTRY OF CANADIAN CONCERN OVER LEGAL ASPECTS OF PLO OBSERVER STATUS AND THAT GOC MUST FACE UP TO POLITICAL REALITY AND ARAB SENSITIVITIES INVOLVED.

6. COMMENT. PERMDEL BELIEVES LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS ARE CONSIDERED AS ULTIMATELY SECONDARY TO POLITICAL QUESTION OF RELATIONS WITH ARAB STATES BY OTHER WESTERN MEMBER STATES. ARAB STATES ON UNESCO EXECUTIVE PERCEIVED BY THEM AS A PRETEXT AND POINTED OUT THAT PLO SEVERAL TIMES LINKED IN RESOLUTION (TEXT REPORTED REFTEL C) TO FACT IT "RECOGNIZED BY LEAGUE OF ARAB STATES."

7. PERMDEL WOULD APPRECIATE GENERAL GUIDELINES RE PRESENTATION US POSITION AS VOTE MAY BE REQUIRED IN LEGAL COMMITTEE DISCUSSION; SPECIFICALLY WHETHER US POSITION REMAINS UNCHANGED FROM THAT TAKEN IN RECENT EXBD VOTE.

8. PLEASE ADVISE.
IRWIN

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Message Attributes

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